

concurrently with this response. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee associated with this response and credit any overcharge to Deposit Account No. 04-1406.

Please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

In the Claims:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel without prejudice claims 1-37.

38. (Amended Once) An appliance for administering a reduced pressure treatment to a wound comprising:

(a) an impermeable cover [for covering] adapted to cover and [enclosing] enclose the wound and [for maintaining] to maintain reduced pressure at the site of the wound;

(b) a seal operably connected with the cover for sealing said cover to tissue surrounding the wound;

(c) support means associated with said cover for holding said cover out of contact with the wound; and

(d) reduced pressure supply means operably connected with the cover for connection to a source of suction, said reduced pressure supply means cooperating with said cover to supply [for supplying] and maintain[ing] said reduced pressure beneath the cover.

44. (Amended Once) The appliance as recited in claim 38 wherein said seal

includes an adhesive material located on the cover for securing said cover to the tissue surrounding the wound.

¹⁴ 52. (Amended Once) The appliance as recited in claim ¹³ 50 comprising a pad positioned between edges of the [shield] sheet and the tissue surrounding the wound.

¹⁶ 54. (Amended Once) The appliance of Claim ¹⁵ 53 wherein said screen comprises a [sheet-like] mesh.

¹⁷ 55. (Amended Once) The appliance of Claim ¹⁵ 53 wherein said seal includes an adhesive material located on the cover for adhering to tissue surrounding the wound and a seal member at least partially overlying said cover.

⁵⁶ 60. (Amended Once) An apparatus for treating a wound comprising:

- (a) a vacuum system for producing a reduced pressure; and
- (b) a reduced pressure appliance operably connected with said vacuum system for applying said reduced pressure to the wound, the appliance including:
 - (i) an impermeable cover [for covering] adapted to cover and [enclosing] enclose the wound and [for maintaining] to maintain reduced pressure at the site of the wound;
 - (ii) support means associated with said cover for holding said cover out of contact with the wound;
 - (iii) a seal operably connected with the cover for sealing said cover to tissue surrounding the wound; and